

**Abington Township
Environmental Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2014**

Call to Order: 7:30 In attendance: Jennifer Sherwood, Cakky Evans, Michele Kaczalek, Andrea Soo, Susan Myerov, John Sorrentino, Jim Webb, Karin McGarry-Rosen
Guests: John Ferro

Minutes: The December 10, 2014 minutes were approved.

Chairperson’s Report: The report was accepted.

Secretary/ Treasurer’s Report: The treasurer’s report was accepted.

Committee Reports:

Administration: The report was accepted.

Energy and Sustainability: No activity to report.

Land Planning: The report was accepted.

Public Relations: The report was accepted.

Watersheds, Storm Water, Restoration: The report was accepted as amended.

Active Business:

Zoning Ordinance Committee (ZOC) – EAC members are needed to attend the January 28, 2015 meeting. Sue Myerov will review the January 7th ZOC presentation to provide clarification on the use of “incentives” proposed in multiple districts. Cakky Evans will try to obtain a copy of the 3rd presentation before the meeting date for review by EAC members. Comments should be forwarded to Mark Penecale .

2014 Annual Report – Jennifer Sherwood reminded members to submit their project reports to her by January 28th,

Planning for 2015 Activities – A discussion was held with various dates and types of workshops proposed by members for 2015 activities. Locations were also discussed. Cakky volunteered to draft an e-mail with various dates and locations for review and selection by the members. Sue will organize the “Green your Yard” workshop at the Library. Cakky will check with the Library for available dates.

New Business:

Associate Member Renewal – A motion was made and approved to renew the membership of Karin McGarry-Rosen, Joel Schilling, and Jane Straub for another year.

By-Laws Review – No change to the By-Laws.

Audubon Bird Town (ABT) – Jenn summarized how ABT started, its purpose and membership cost. ABT offers speakers and resources. A motion was made and approved for the EAC to support the application for Abington becoming an Audubon Bird Town as long as there is no cost to the township.

PECO Green Region Grant – Sue summarized the program information and grant guidelines. A discussion was then held as to the best use of the grant if received. Possible uses proposed for the grant included – Rain gardens, Basin retro fitting, and Manor Woods, Jackson Park or Alverthorpe Park improvements. Sue offered to help complete the application for the grant. Cakky proposed talking with Doug Wendell to see if money could be made available for Jackson Park. Cakky would contact Paul Macht to set up a meeting to discuss collaboration. John Sorrentino will call Mike Powers to discuss possible locations for a rain garden.

Sue will again review the 2005 Open Space Plan.

Rain barrels – Cakky proposed increasing the price on rain barrels provided by the EAC to Township residents. Michele Kaczalek will check with RainBarrel Fundraising and Sue will check with the County for prices on buying rain barrels for resale.

Cakky recommended that members attend the DVGBC TriState Sustainability Symposium on March 6.

Members are invited to attend the League of Women Voters “Legislative Interview” on January 22 at 7:30 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45
Next Meeting – February 11, 2015